

How Does Child, Early, and Forced Marriage Impact Your Work?



Today

$\frac{1}{3}$ of all girls in the developing world are **MARRIED** BEFORE THE AGE OF 18



Tomorrow

IF CURRENT RATES CONTINUE



Because of the **INCREASING YOUTH POPULATION**



150 girls will be married in the next decade
MILLION

THE FACTS RELATED TO CHILD, EARLY, AND FORCED MARRIAGE



GLOBAL HEALTH

- ▶ **90% OF BIRTHS TO ADOLESCENTS** worldwide occur within marriage
- ▶ **MATERNAL MORTALITY** is the second leading cause of death among girls 15-19 globally



EDUCATION

- ▶ Girls with no education are **3 X AS LIKELY TO MARRY BEFORE 18** as girls with higher education
- ▶ Girls who marry young are **MORE LIKELY TO DROP OUT** of school



DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS & GOVERNANCE

- ▶ 158 countries have **MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE LAWS**, but they often lack local **ENFORCEMENT**
- ▶ **CUSTOMARY LAWS** often contradict formal laws



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ The **POOREST GIRLS ARE 3 X** more likely to become child brides than the richest
- ▶ When girls marry young, they are **LESS LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE** in the labor force



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- ▶ Child brides experience higher rates of **MALNUTRITION** than girls who marry later in life
- ▶ Food insecurity can increase **PRESSURE FOR EARLY MARRIAGE** within families



CRISIS & CONFLICT

- ▶ **RISK OF CHILD MARRIAGE INCREASES** during social and political uncertainty and humanitarian crises
- ▶ Family, social, legal, and economic structures often crumble during crisis and conflict, leaving **LITTLE PROTECTION FROM CHILD MARRIAGE**



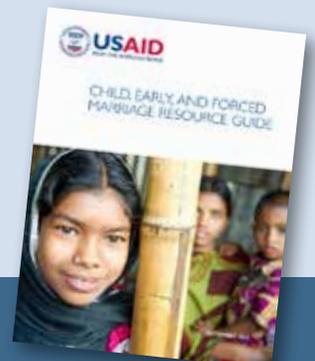
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- ▶ Child, early, and forced marriage is a form of **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**
- ▶ Early marriage puts a girl at **HIGHER RISK** of gender-based violence throughout her lifetime

WHAT CAN WE DO?



- ▶ **EMPOWER** girls at risk of Child, Early, and Forced Marriage and support already married girls
- ▶ Keep girls in **SCHOOL**
- ▶ **SHIFT ATTITUDES** via community mobilization and outreach
- ▶ **INTEGRATE** prevention and mitigation efforts within and across sectors
- ▶ **ENACT AND ENFORCE LAWS** and policies that delay marriage



To find out more about Child, Early, and Forced Marriage, including how **YOU** can address it in your work, visit:

www.usaid.gov/documents/1865/child-early-and-forced-marriage-resource-guide

#ChildMarriage · #EndChildMarriage · #CEFMGuide · @USAID